# The Cathedral Church of the Iboly Trinity



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## Cathedral Church of the Boly Trinity Quebec

A brief description

By Rev. A. E. Burgett, M. A.

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#### PREFACE.

The following pages have been compiled with the sanction and help of the Dean of Quebec for the purpose of giving visitors to Quebec some information regarding the Cathedral Church of Holy Trinity and various matters connected with it. I desire to express my inceptedness to Fred. C. Wurtele, Esq., for the assistance he has kindly given me in the production of this pamphlet and my thanks are also due to the owners of the photographs reproduced in its pages.

A. E. B.

July, 1908.

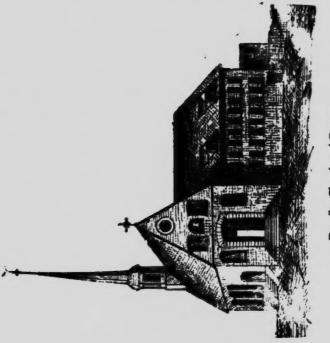
## The Cathedral of the Holy Trinity

HE ORIGINAL proprietors of the ground upon which the Cathedral is built were the Franciscan Friars, a mendicant order of monks founded in Italy by St. Francis d'Assisi in the year 1208. These Franciscans or "Recollets" as they were more usually called, built a convent and church in the year 1691 on the site now occupied by the present Cathedral. At the siege of Quebec in 1759, these build-

ings were considerably damaged by the fire from the guns of the British fleet, but the Recollets continued in possession of them, and remained there after the fall of the city.

It is interesting to note that in the year 1767, by the kindness of these monks, an English service was held every Sunday in their church, as the following extract from the Quebec Gazette of May 21st shews.

"On Sunday next, Divine Service according to the use of the church of Eng-



Recollet-Church and Convent



Cathedral Exterior

land will be at the Recollets' Church and continue for the summer season, beginning soon after eleven. The drum will beat each Sunday soon after half past ten and the Recollets bell will ring to give notice of the English service the instant their own is ended."

The same privilege was granted to the Presbyterians in 1791, and a record exists of a hogshead of wine being given to the Recollets for the use of their church in that year.

The Right Rev. Charles Inglis, D.D. Bishop of Nova Scotia, who was the first Colonial Bishop of the Church of England, held his Primary Visitation in the Recollets' Church on the 5th August, 1789.

The Church of the Recollets and the Convent were burnt to the ground in 1796 in the disastrous fire that broke out on September 6th and which demolished fourteen houses in the Upper Town and threatened to destroy the whole city.

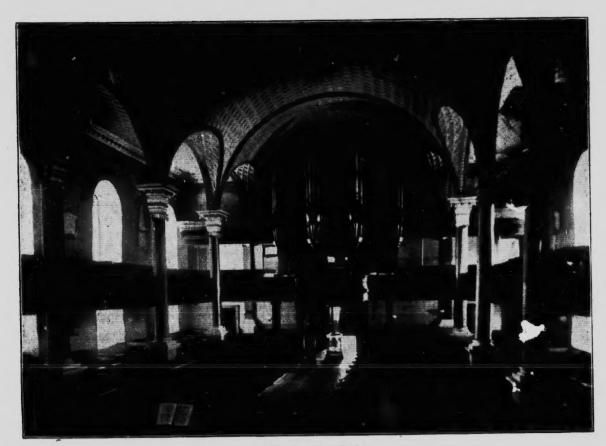
After the fire the Government took possession of the property and pulled down the ruins that remained. In 1793 the King of England issued Letters

Patent for the formation of a Diocese to be called the Bishopric of Quebec and Dr. Jacob Mountain was consecrated Bishop at Lambeth on the 7th July 1793. He set sail at once and after a voyage of thirteen weeks arrived safely in Quebec. There was at that date no church building belonging to the Church of England in Quebec, services being held in a Jesuit Church in St. Anne Street. On learning of this from the Bishop, King George III proceeded to build a Church and set apart a portion of the Recollets property for this purpose. Plans and specifications were prepared, and Captain Robe, of the Royal Artillery, was appointed superintendent of the work. The corner stone was laid on the 3rd November, 1800, by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor and the following document placed therein:

Glory to God in the Highest.—"Of this Metropolitan Church of Quebec, erected by the pious munificence of His Majesty George III, king of Great Britain, France and Ireland, the first stone was laid by His Excellency R. S. Milnes, Lieutenant-Governor of this Province, assisted by the Rev. Jacob, Lord Bishop of this Diocese, the Hon. William Osgoode, His Majesty's



View of East End



View of West End

Chief Justice for the Province, the Hon. Sir. George Pownall, Kt., member of the Legislative Council, Jonathan Sewell. Esq., Attorney-General, and the Rev. Salter J. Mountain, Rector of Quebec, Commissioners for building the Church, and Matthew Bell, Esq., their Treasurer, on the 3rd day of November, in the year of Our Lord, one thousand eight hundred, and the forty-first year of His Majesty's reign."

It may be of interest to mention that the Quebec Cathedral was actually the first church of the Anglican Communion built and consecrated as a Cathedral, outside of the British Isles.

The following is an extract from the "Letters Patent erecting the Cathedral."—Now, wherefore; know ye, that we have determined to erect the said Seite or lot of ground into an Episcopal Seat, and the said Church into a Cathedral Church, and by these presents we do create, erect, found, ordain, make, constitute and establish the said seite or lot of ground and Church aforesaid to be and Episcopal Seat and Cathedral Church, forever hereafter to be, continuated and remain, the Episcopal Seat and Cathedral Church. And we do further

by these presents, create, erect, found, ordain, make, constitute and establish the said Cathedral Church to be the Cathedral Church of the said Bishoprick of Quebec, forever hereafter to be, continue and remain the Cathedral Church of the said Bishoprick of Quebec and forever hereafter to be called, known and distinguished by the name of the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity of the Bishoprick of Quebec."

The general dimensions of the Church were taken from those of the Church of St. Martins-in-the-Fields, London, but the workmanship and difficulties of obtaining good material in Canada rendered a simplified design necessary.

The walls of the Cathedral are built of stone obtained from Ange-Gardien, Cap Rouge, and Pointe-aux-Trembles, Quebec. The under-flooring of the Church is of cedar and the upper flooring of oak; the arched ceiling is built entirely of pine and is 41 ft. in height. The Communion rail and pews as well as the woodwork of the galleries are all of English oak. The ancient oaken Pulpit originally stood in the centre and was reached by two staircases meeting on a platform in rear of the Pulpit.





Communion Plate, presented by King George III 



White Altar Frontal

Outside the Chancel rails is a brass plate with inscription, "Beneath are deposited the mortal remains of Charles, Duke of Richmond, Lenox and Aubigny." The Duke of Richmond was Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in Canada at the time of his death, and as such was entitled to be buried in the Cathedral; his tomb is situated beneath the Sanctuary in front of the Altar.

Inside the Chancel rails are two monuments, that on the North side in memory of the first Bishop of Quebec, the Right Rev. Jacob Mountain, D.D., whose remains lie interred beneath themural tablet, and that on the South side, of the second Bishop of Quebec, the Hon. and Right Rev. Rev. Charles James Stewart, D.D. The great East window, representing the Ascension of Our Lord, was given by the churchmen of Quebec, in memory of the third Bishop of Quebec, the Right Rev. George Jehoshaphat Mountain, D.D. The eagle lectern was presented to the Cathedral by the congregation in memory of the fourth Bishop of Quebec, the Right Rev. James Williams, D.D. The handsome brass altar cross was also presented to the Cathedral by the Dean of Quebec, in memory of his father, the fourth Bishop of Quebec.

Over the Bishop's throne are the arms of the Diocese.

The old Flags hung in the Cathedral are the Colours of the 69th Regiment (South Lincolnshire) and were deposited there on June 22nd, 1870, with an interesting and imposing ceremony.

The Regiment was raised in 1756, and served with distinction in the following actions:—

- 1. Action off Cape St. Vincent in 1797 on board the same ship with Lord Nelson.
  - 2. The attack upon the Isle of Bourbon.
  - 3. Operations in Java.
  - 4. Indian mutiny.
  - 5. Battles of Quatre-Bras, and Waterloo.

The colours bear the words Bourbon, Jav., Waterloo, India.

The beautiful white Altar Frontal made by the Sisters of the Community of St. John the Divine, Toronto, was used for the first time on Sunday, August 28, 1904, being the 100th Anniversary of the consecration of the Cathedral. The



The Tidings of the Resurrection Centenary Memorial Window



Memoritor of First Bishop of Quebec

## THE CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Preacher on that occasion was the Most Rev. Randall Thomas Davidson, D.D., Archbishop c. Canterbury.

The Communion Plate which is very massive and handsome, was a special gift of King George III, and consists of ten pieces of solid silver engraved and embossed with the Royal arms, and the arms of the Diocese. The alms dish is a particularly beautiful work of art, the centre of the dish representing in relief, the Last Supper. There are also a large credence paten, two tall flagons, two heavy chalices of frosted silver, two massive candlesticks and two plain patens. The two candlesticks are extremely handsome and are Lorned at the base with the arms of the King and the arms of the Diocese. They have been in use on the Altar for over one hundred years. One of the small chalices and a silver alms dish were presented to the Cathedral by the King in the year 1766, and brought out to Canada by General Murray in June of that year. This chalice is used in the Cathedral every Sunday morning. The other chalice in use is identical in shape and size and was made in Quebec in the year 1837.

The Communion Plate presented by the King was manufactured by Rundell

& Edge, of London. King George III also presented a silk veil, some crimson altar cloths and pulpit hangings fringed with gold bullion lace and a great Bible together with some large Prayer Books adorned with the Royal Arms.

A Bible was also presented to the Cathedral by King Edward VII., then Prince of Wales, in commemoration of his visit to the Cathedral on August 19th, 1860.

The Cathedral has a fine peal of eight Bells from the foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stain bank, of London, which were rung for the first time in 1830, when Lord Aylmer took the oaths or office as governor of Lower Canada.

The organ which has three manuals and 39 sounding stops, is a particularly fine instrument and was the gift of the late Hon. R. R. Dobell.

It is interesting to note that in the year 1804 there was a surpliced choir or 13 boys and 4 men, and full choral services were maintained in the Cathedrai for forty years after that date.

The seats of the Cathedral are all free and unappropriated with the exception of the railed pew bearing the Royal Arms, in the North Gallery,

## THE CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY TRINITY

which is reserved for members of the Royal Family and the King's Representative.

#### BISHOPS OF QUEBEC.

First Bishop—Jacob Mountain, D.D., consecrated July 7th 1793. Died 1825.

Second Bishop—Charles James Stewart, D.D., consecrated Jan. 18th, 1826. Died 1836.

Third Bishop—George Jehoshapat Mountain, D.D., consecrated 1837. Died 1863.

Fourth Bishop-James William Williams, D.D., consecrated 1863. Died 1892.

Present Bishop-Andrew Hunter Dunn, D.D., consecrated, 1892.

Present Dean of Quebee—The VeryRev .Lennox Waldron Williams, M.A (Oxon,) D.D.











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